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NEWS RELEASE

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State Awards K-6 Space and Energy Implementation Grants

(PHOENIX, AZ – May 7, 2008) The Arizona School Facilities Board (SFB) approved additional K-6 space for the Thatcher Unified District and awarded \$2,000,000 in Energy Implementation Grants at the monthly board meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2008.

The additional K-6 space was awarded as part of the FY08 Capital Plan Cycle, which is nearing an end. The cycle begins in early September when districts submit their requests for new construction. From that time, SFB staff analyzes the requests taking into account factors such as current district capacity and projected growth.

The Thatcher Unified District received additional K-6 space for 116 students, which is expected to open in Fall 2010. This award totals \$1,304,382. A list of projects approved in this cycle is attached.

Approvals such as this allow districts to design their schools within the allocated budgets. Upon completion of design, the projects will go before the Board again for approval to begin actual construction. More awards may be made at the next board meeting to be held in the Casa Grande Elementary District on June 5, 2008.

The Arizona Energy and Water Savings Grant Program was created by Laws 2007, Chapter 266 (HB 2792) and appropriates \$2,200,000 for school districts to perform energy and water savings audits to identify potential energy or water savings measures, and estimate projected savings, benefits and costs associated with the implementation of energy and water conservation projects.

The grant funding was divided into two types of projects: development grants and implementation grants. The establishing statute defines implementation grants as “a project that saves electricity, natural gas, other energy fuels or water, in a school facility built and occupied before July 1, 1999, through any of the following: (a) Improvements in the efficiency of energy or water use, (b) On-site production and use of electricity and useful thermal energy, or (c)

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Improvements in the operation of buildings and energy-consuming or water-using equipment in buildings.” The SFB may award up to \$2,000,000 for implementation grants, with the balance of grant funding designated for development grants. The development grant awards were approved by the Board on April 3, 2008.

Of the 164 implementation grant applications received, the following districts have been awarded funding:

| District | Project | Score | Award |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Payson Unified | Payson High School | 77 | \$100,000 |
| Flowing Wells Unified | Flowing Wells High School | 65 | \$5,434 |
| Eloy Elementary | Eloy Intermediate School | 61 | \$98,361 |
| Altar Valley Unified | Mary E. Dill Elementary School | 58 | \$84,773 |
| Altar Valley Unified | Administration/Transportation | 56 | \$12,890 |
| Parker Unified | Parker High School | 54 | \$100,000 |
| Payson Unified | Payson Elementary School | 53 | \$100,000 |
| Colorado River Union | River Valley High School | 52 | \$100,000 |
| Colorado River Union | Mohave High School | 52 | \$100,000 |
| Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary | Clarkdale-Jerome Elementary School | 51 | \$98,961 |
| Concho Elementary | Concho Elementary School | 50 | \$64,259 |
| Sahuarita Unified | Sahuarita Intermediate School | 48 | \$100,000 |
| Parker Unified | Wallace Elementary School | 48 | \$71,011 |
| Eloy Elementary | Curiel Annex School | 45 | \$18,234 |
| Altar Valley Unified | Altar Valley Middle School | 45 | \$81,114 |
| Avondale Elementary | Lattie Coor (West) Elementary School | 45 | \$60,913 |
| Gilbert Unified | Gilbert High School | 45 | \$100,000 |
| Fowler Elementary | District Office | 45 | \$58,008 |
| Parker Unified | Wallace Junior High School | 44 | \$24,006 |
| Sacaton Elementary | Sacaton Elementary School | 43 | \$31,107 |
| Osborn Unified | Solano Elementary School | 43 | \$25,000 |
| Osborn Unified | Osborn Middle School | 43 | \$5,000 |
| Fowler Elementary | Sunridge Elementary School | 43 | \$98,880 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Catalina Foothills Unified | Manzanita Elementary School | 42 | \$100,000 |
| Sacaton Elementary | Sacaton Middle School | 42 | \$94,762 |
| Osborn Unified | Clarendon Elementary School | 42 | \$16,000 |
| Madison Elementary | Richard Simis Elementary School | 41 | \$100,000 |
| Osborn Unified | Encanto Elementary School | 41 | \$7,500 |
| Pine Strawberry Elementary | Pine Strawberry Elementary School | 40 | \$94,918 |
| Gilbert Unified | Highland High School | 40 | \$48,395 |

In total, these projects will save \$497,243 per year, with an average payback of just over four years. If all 164 projects had been awarded, the projected annual savings would be \$1.2 million with a payback of just over nine years.

**SFB Approved New Construction Projects
FY 2008 Capital Plan Cycle**

| Approval Date | District | Project | Grades | Student Capacity | Square Footage | Open FY | NC Funding |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------|
| 12/6/2007 | Gila County Regional | School | 7-12 | 90 | 10,000 | 2011 | \$1,563,600 |
| 12/6/2007 | Gila County Regional | School | 7-12 | 63 | 7,000 | 2011 | \$1,094,520 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 153 | 17,000 | | \$2,658,120 |
| 1/10/08 | Sunnyside Unified | School | 9-12 | 1,182 | 111,125 | 2011 | \$18,203,386 |
| 1/10/08 | Vail Unified | School | 6-8 | 785 | 62,836 | 2011 | \$8,732,947 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 1,967 | 173,961 | | \$26,936,333 |
| 2/7/08 | Laveen Elementary | School | K-8 | 1,155 | 92,400 | 2011 | \$12,545,148 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 1,155 | 92,400 | | \$12,545,148 |
| 3/6/08 | Maricopa Unified | School | 6-8 | 1,088 | 87,003 | 2011 | \$12,091,677 |
| 3/6/08 | Maricopa Unified | School | 9-12 | 2,394 | 225,000 | 2011 | \$36,857,250 |
| 3/6/08 | Toltec Elementary | School | K-8 | 857 | 69,300 | 2011 | \$9,408,861 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 4,339 | 381,303 | | \$58,357,788 |
| 4/3/08 | Queen Creek Unified | School | 9-12 | 1,153 | 108,375 | 2011 | \$17,752,909 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 1,153 | 108,375 | | \$17,752,909 |
| 5/1/08 | Thatcher Unified | Additional Space | K-6 | 116 | 9,270 | 2010 | \$1,304,382 |
| | Subtotal: | | | 116 | 9,270 | | \$1,304,382 |
| | Total: | | | 8,883 | 782,309 | | \$119,554,680 |